



CALIFORNIA BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH (P/MH) NURSE LISTING

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

I. Overview

Pursuant to the amendment of Division 2 of the Insurance Code Section 10176, the Board of Registered Nursing maintains a list of registered nurses who are eligible for direct reimbursement by some health care plans for providing psychiatric/mental health services to insured persons. For reimbursement purposes, the psychiatric/mental health services provided must be covered under the terms of the insured's plan and must be considered necessary by the referring physician.

To be eligible for the listing, the California Registered Nurse must possess a master's degree in psychiatric/mental health nursing and complete two (2) years of supervised clinical experience in providing psychiatric/mental health counseling services. The master's degree in nursing must be directly related to mental health, such as psychiatric/mental health nursing or community mental health nursing.

Validation of the required two (2) years of supervised clinical experience may be obtained in the following manner: **(A)** one (1) year of supervised clinical experience obtained while completing the master's degree in nursing and one (1) year of supervised clinical experience obtained after the master's degree in nursing has been conferred; or two (2) years of supervised clinical experience obtained subsequent to the conferral of the master's degree in nursing; or **(B)** American Nurses Association - American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) verification as a Clinical Specialist in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing.

Psychiatric/mental health nurses work under the same scope of regulation as do all registered nurses, and inclusion on the Board's list does not in any way expand the scope of practice of such registered nurses.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS (CONT'D)

II. General Application Requirements

Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse listing eligibility requires the possession of an active California Registered Nurse (RN) license.

If you do not possess an active California RN license and have never applied for a California RN license, an Application for Licensure by Endorsement must also be submitted. If you have had a permanent California RN license, you must either renew or reactivate the California RN license.

Psychiatric/mental health nurse application fee is nonrefundable. Processing times for certification may vary, depending on the receipt of documentation from academic programs, association/national organizations or evaluators. Processing a Nurse Practitioner certification application indicating disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s) may take longer. A pending application is not a disclosable public record; therefore, an applicant must sign a release of information before the Board of Registered Nursing will release information relating to the application to the public, including employers, relatives or other third parties. Once you are certified, your address of record must be disclosed to the public upon request.

III. Name and/or Address Changes

California Code of Regulations, Section 1409.1 requires that you notify the Board of Registered Nursing of all name and address changes within thirty (30) days of any change. You may call the Board of Registered Nursing regarding the change of address of record. If you have changed your name, please submit a letter of explanation regarding the requested name change plus applicable documentation such as a copy of a marriage certificate, divorce decree or a driver's license.

IV. U.S. Social Security Number and Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

Disclosure of your U.S. Social Security Number/ITIN is mandatory. Section 30 of the Business and Professions Code and Public Law 94-455 (42 USCA 405 (c)(2)(C)) authorize collection of your U.S. Social Security Number/ITIN. Your U.S. Social Security Number/ITIN will be used exclusively for tax enforcement purposes, for purposes of compliance with any judgment or order for family support in accordance with Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or for verification of licensure, certification or examination status by a licensing or examination entity which utilizes a national examination and where licensure is reciprocal with the requesting state. **If you fail to disclose your U.S. Social Security Number/ITIN, your application for initial or renewal of licensure/certification will not be processed.** You will be reported to the Franchise Tax Board, who may assess a \$100 penalty against you.

ALERT: Effective July 1, 2012, the Board of Registered Nursing is required to deny an application for licensure and to suspend the license/certification/registration of any applicant or licensee who has outstanding tax obligations due to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) of the State Board of Equalization (BOE) and appears on either the FTB or BOE's certified lists of top 500 tax delinquencies over \$100.00. (AB 1424, Perea, Chapter 455, Statutes of 2011)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS (CONT'D)

V. Reporting ALL Discipline(s) and/or Voluntary Surrender(s) Against Licenses/Certificates/Listings

All disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s) against an applicant's psychiatric/mental health nurse, registered nurse, practical nurse, vocational nurse or other professional license/certificate/listing must be reported.

Failure to report prior disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s) is considered falsification of application and is grounds for denial of licensure/certification/listing or revocation of license/certificate/listing.

When reporting prior disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s), **applicants are required to provide a full written explanation of:** circumstances surrounding the disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s) and the date of disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s). State board determinations/decisions should also be included.

NOTE: Applicants must also submit a description of the rehabilitative changes in their lifestyle which would enable them to avoid future occurrences.

To make a determination in these cases, the Board of Registered Nursing considers the nature and severity of the offense, additional subsequent acts, recency of acts or crimes, compliance with court sanctions and evidence of rehabilitation.

The burden of proof lies with the applicant to demonstrate acceptable documented evidence of rehabilitation. Examples of rehabilitation evidence include, but are not limited to:

- Recent dated letter from applicant describing rehabilitative efforts or changes in life to prevent future problems.
- Letters of reference on official letterhead from employers, nursing instructors, health professionals, professional counselors, parole or probation officers, or other individuals in positions of authority who are knowledgeable about your rehabilitation efforts.
- Letters from recognized recovery programs and/or counselors attesting to current sobriety and length of time of sobriety, if there is a history of alcohol or drug abuse.
- Proof of community work, schooling, self-improvement efforts.

All of the above items should be mailed **directly** to the Board of Registered Nursing by the individual(s) or agency who is providing information about the applicant. Have these items sent to the Board of Registered Nursing, Licensing Unit – Advanced Practice (P/MH Listing), P.O. Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS (CONT'D)

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide sufficient rehabilitation evidence on a timely basis so that the listing determination can be made.

An applicant is also required to immediately report, in writing, to the Board of Registered Nursing any disciplinary action(s) and/or voluntary surrender(s) which occur between the date the application was filed and the date that a California Psychiatric/Mental Health listing certificate is issued. Failure to report this information is grounds for denial of licensure/certification or revocation of license/certificate.

NOTE: The application must be completed and signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury.

VI. Address Information

The Board of Registered Nursing's mailing address is:

Advanced Practice Unit – P/MH Listing
Board of Registered Nursing
P. O. Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100

The Board of Registered Nursing's street address for overnight mail is:

Advanced Practice Unit – P/MH Listing
Board of Registered Nursing
1747 North Market Blvd., Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95834

VII. California Nursing Practice Act

California statutes and regulations pertaining to Registered Nurses - Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurses may be obtained by contacting:

LexisNexis at:
www.lexisnexis.com/bookstore (search: California Nursing)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH (P/MH) NURSE LISTING

1. The Online submission of the **Application for the Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Listing** to the Board of Registered Nursing and applicable fee.

2. **Verification of the Completion of a Psychiatric/Mental Health Academic Program form** (Page 7) and **official transcripts** verifying the master's degree in psychiatric/mental health nursing submitted by the academic program directly to the Board of Registered Nursing. Course descriptions for the applicable period of enrollment should accompany official transcripts when the nursing specialty area for the master's degree is not clearly identified.

3. Submission of one (1) of the applicable forms A (Page 8) or B (Page 9) to the Board of Registered Nursing to satisfy the supervised clinical experience requirement.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH (P/MH) NURSE LISTING (CONT'D)</p> |
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A. Verification of Supervision of Clinical Experience - Page 8

Verification of two (2) years of clinical experience in providing psychiatric/mental health counseling services under the supervision of one or more of the following professionals with current training and practice as well as a current, clear and active license:

- A psychiatric/mental health nurse listed with the California Board of Registered Nursing.
- A licensed clinical psychologist.
- A licensed clinical social worker.
- A licensed marriage, family and child counselor.
- A psychiatrist.

The supervised clinical experience for the provision of psychiatric/mental health counseling services may be satisfied by evidencing that the required two (2) years of clinical experience was completed in the following manner:

- One (1) year obtained while completing the master's degree in nursing and one (1) year after the master's degree in nursing had been conferred; **OR**
- Two (2) years obtained subsequent to the conferral of the master's degree in nursing.

If one professional did not supervise the entire two (2) year period, the verification form must be submitted by each supervisor to evidence the completion of the required supervised clinical experience during the two (2) year period. The two (2) year period does not need to be consecutive years.

Applicants whose experience had been acquired outside of California must provide evidence that at the time the experience was obtained, the supervisor was currently licensed, certified or registered to provide psychiatric/mental health counseling services by a state agency whose standards are equivalent to or greater than those required by the equivalent licensing agency in California.

B. Verification of Psychiatric/Mental Health Certification by a National Association - Page 9

American Nurses Association - American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)* verification that the applicant is currently certified as a Clinical Specialist in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing. The verification form must be submitted directly to the Board of Registered Nursing by ANCC.

*** American Nurses Association - American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)**

600 Maryland Ave., SW, Suite 100 West, Washington, DC 20024-2571

(800) 284-2378 <http://www.nursingworld.org/ancc>

(Above Information Subject to Change)

VIII. HONORABLY DISCHARGED MEMBERS OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES RECEIVE EXPEDITED REVIEW

Notwithstanding any other law, on and after July 1, 2016, a board within the department shall expedite, and may assist, the initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant has served as an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States and was honorably discharged (Business and Professions Code section 115.4

If you would like to be considered for this expedited review and process, please provide the following documentation with your application:

1. Report of Separation form.

The report of separation form issued in most recent years is the **DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty**. Before January 1, 1950, several similar forms were used by the military services, including the WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 553, NAVMC 78PD and the NAVCG 553.

Information shown on the Report of Separation may include the service member's date and place of entry into active duty, date and place of release from active duty, last duty assignment and rank, military job specialty, military education, total creditable service, separation information, etc.



**VERIFICATION OF THE COMPLETION OF
 A PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH (P/MH) ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

A. TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT: Please complete Section A and forward to the program director/representative for the Psychiatric/Mental Health nursing academic program for completion. Official transcripts submitted must include all completed course work with the master's degree status conferred and must be sent directly to the Board of Registered Nursing by the Registrar's Office/Transcript Office. A processing fee may be required for the submission of the official transcripts. Please print or type.

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| Name: (Last) (First) (Middle) | Previous Names (Including Maiden Name): |
| Address: (Number & Street) | Date of Birth: (Month) (Day) (Year) |
| (City) (State) (Zip Code) | U.S. Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer ID Number: |
| Telephone Number: Home () Work () | California RN License Number: Expiration Date: |
| Name of Master's Degree Nursing Program: | |
| Entrance and Completion Dates: | Specialty: |
| Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____ | |

B. TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR/REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH NURSING ACADEMIC PROGRAM: Please complete Part B regarding the above named applicant and return to the Board of Registered Nursing.

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| Name of Master's Degree Nursing Program: | Telephone Number: () |
| Address: (Number & Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code) | |
| Nursing Specialty: | Date Master's Degree Status Conferred: |
| Entrance and Completion Dates: From: To: (Month) (Day) (Year) (Month) (Day) (Year) | |

I certify under penalty of perjury that the documentation regarding the completion of the Psychiatric/Mental Health master's nursing academic program for the above named applicant is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Title: _____ Telephone Number: (_____) _____



A. VERIFICATION OF SUPERVISION OF CLINICAL EXPERIENCE (P/MH)

A. INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT: Please complete Part A of the form and submit to your supervisor for completion. If more than one (1) supervisor supervised during the two (2) year period, the form must be submitted by each supervisor. Please print or type.

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

California RN License Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Telephone Number: (_____) _____ U.S. Social Security Number or ITIN: _____

B. INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISOR: Please complete Part B of the form regarding the above named applicant and submit to the Board of Registered Nursing.

Name of Supervisor: _____ Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Address: _____
(Number & Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Profession: _____ Licensed By: _____

License Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ U.S. Social Security Number: _____

Location of Clinical Experience: _____
(Name of Agency) (Address)

Level of Supervision Provided: _____

Summary of the nature of cases, types of treatment and/or appropriate interventions carried out by the above named applicant during the specified period of supervision for the provision of psychiatric/mental health counseling services:

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct and that I supervised the above named applicant in providing psychiatric/mental health counseling services to clients during the period:

From: _____ To: _____ For: _____ Hours Per Week = _____
Month) (Day) (Year) (Month) (Day) (Year) (Number of) (Cumulative Hours)

Signature of Supervisor: _____ Date: _____



**B. VERIFICATION OF PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH (P/MH) CERTIFICATION
 BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

A. TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT: Please complete Part A and submit to the American Nurses Association - American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to verify your clinical specialist in psychiatric/mental health nursing certification status. **A fee is required by ANCC for processing the verification form.** Please print or type.

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| Name: (Last) (First) (Middle) | Previous Names (Including Maiden Name): |
| Address: (Number & Street) | Date of Birth: (Month) (Day) (Year) |
| (City) (State) (Zip Code) | U.S. Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer ID Number: |
| Telephone Number: Home () Work () | California RN License Number: Expiration Date: |
| Name of Master's Degree Nursing Program: | |
| Entrance and Completion Dates: | Specialty: |
| Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____ | |

B. TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CERTIFYING NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Please complete Part B regarding the above named applicant and return to the Board of Registered Nursing.

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| Name of Certifying National Association: | Telephone Number: () |
| Address: (Number & Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code) | Method of Certification: |
| Certificate Number: | CNS Certification Specialty: |
| Original Date of Certification: | |
| Current Renewal Cycle Dates for Certification/Recertification: From: To: (If not applicable, please explain.) (Month) (Year) (Month) (Year) | |

I certify under penalty of perjury that the clinical specialist in psychiatric/mental health nursing certification status for the above named applicant is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Telephone Number:(_____) _____ **(OFFICIAL SEAL)**



INFORMATION COLLECTION AND ACCESS

The Information Practices Act, Section 1798.17 Civil Code, requires the following information to be provided when collecting information from individuals.

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| Agency Name: BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING | |
| Title of official responsible for information maintenance: EXECUTIVE OFFICER | |
| Address: P.O. BOX 944210, SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2100 | Telephone Number: (916) 322-3350 |
| Authority which authorizes the maintenance of the information: SECTION 30, SECTION 2732.1(a), BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE | |
| ALL INFORMATION IS MANDATORY. | |
| The consequences, if any of not providing all or any part of the requested information: FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY OF THE REQUESTED INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING REJECTED AS INCOMPLETE. | |
| The principal purpose(s) for which the information is to be used: TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE. YOUR U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/ITIN WILL BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF TAX ENFORCEMENT, CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND VERIFICATION OF LICENSURE AND EXAMINATION STATUS. SECTION 30 OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE AND PUBLIC LAW 94-455 (42 USCA 405(c)(2)(C)) AUTHORIZE COLLECTION OF YOUR U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/ITIN. IF YOU FAIL TO DISCLOSE YOUR U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/ITIN, YOU WILL BE REPORTED TO THE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, WHICH MAY ASSESS A \$100 PENALTY AGAINST YOU. YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS LISTED ON THIS APPLICATION WILL BE DISCLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST IF AND WHEN YOU BECOME LICENSED. | |
| Any known or foreseeable interagency or intergovernmental transfer which may be made of the information: POSSIBLE TRANSFER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND REPORTING U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/ITIN TO THE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD OR FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES PURSUANT TO SECTION 30 OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE. | |
| EACH INDIVIDUAL HAS THE RIGHT TO REVIEW THE FILES ON RECORDS MAINTAINED ON THEM BY THE AGENCY, UNLESS THE RECORDS ARE EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE. | |

MANDATORY REPORTER

Under California law each person licensed by the Board of Registered Nursing is a “Mandated Reporter” for child abuse or neglect purposes. Prior to commencing his or her employment, and as a prerequisite to that employment, all mandated reporters must sign a statement on a form provided to him or her by his or her employer to the effect that he or she has knowledge of the provisions of Section 11166 and will comply with those provisions.

California Penal Code Section 11166 requires that all mandated reporters make a report to an agency specified in Penal Code Section 11165.9 [generally law enforcement agencies] whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. The mandated reporter must make a report to the agency immediately or as soon as is practicably possible by telephone, and the mandated reporter must prepare and send a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 11166 is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in a county jail, by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both imprisonment and fine.

For further details about these requirements, consult Penal Code Section 11164, and subsequent sections.